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PATENT
TH-0776X (US)
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Eugene R. Montalvo
Eugene R. Montalvo
Date: August 31, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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SEP 10 2001

3600 MAIL ROOM

In re application of)
)
DONALD WAYNE ALLEN and)
DEAN LEROY HENNING)
)
Serial No. 08/970,312)
)
Filed November 14, 1997)
)
FAIRED TRUSS SPAR)

Group Art Unit: 3673

Examiner: J. Lee

August 31, 2001

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 24, 2001

Hon. Assistant Commissioner
For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Attorney for Applicant in the present invention hereby responds to the Office
Action mailed July 24, 2001. At the time of the Office Action, claims 1, 2 and 4-8
were pending.

AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 to read as follows. A marked-up version of claim 1
indicating the amendments to claim 1 is attached hereto as Appendix A.

1. In a spar structure for offshore hydrocarbon recovery operations, the spar
structure comprising:
a vertically oriented elongated floating hull having a buoyant upper section;